

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1048

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Judith Owings Wassom
of Rockwood.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the untimely passing of Judith Owings Wassom; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Wassom was an exemplary public servant and consummate educator who diligently worked to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike, Ms. Wassom was an extremely talented and compassionate educator who worked assiduously for forty-five years to motivate her Roane County High School students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, in addition to cultivating the intellects of her young charges, Judith Wassom immersed herself in providing students with exceptional extracurricular activities by establishing the Republican Club and serving as the Sponsor for the Beta Club and Homecoming, in which position she planned and organized the first homecoming parade; and

WHEREAS, for nineteen years, Mr. and Ms. Wassom graciously entertained hundreds of Christmas home tour guests to express their hospitality and share their love for Rockwood and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, with a heart-felt zeal for history and heritage, Judith Wassom was a proud member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and encouraged others to honor the memory of their loved ones and the sacrifices they had made in order to preserve the past and prepare for the future; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Wassom's passion for her hometown inspired her to work tirelessly and enthusiastically for twenty years with Rockwood 2000; striving to revitalize and promote the city of Rockwood, she was instrumental in procuring the clock tower, city park, the star on the

mountain, and the Christmas lights that adorn Gateway and other important historic city streets;
and

WHEREAS, a woman of faith who possessed a deep and abiding love for Christ, Ms. Wassom was a lifetime member of the Rockwood United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, Judith Wassom was also genuinely devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, she was preceded in death by her beloved husband, John Stanley Wassom; her parents, Zola and Tom Owings; her sister, Betty Martin; and her brother, Jack Owings; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Wassom is survived by her cherished daughter and son-in-law, Zoe' and J.J. Neerman, and four treasured grandchildren, Jarred, Joshua, Jackson, and Zoe'-Kate Neerman; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable woman will also be sorely missed by her two sisters, Sammye Myers and Lynne Tait; her two brothers, Tommy and Ed Owings; and a host of friends, family, and loved ones; and

WHEREAS, Judith Wassom leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Judith Owings Wassom, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Ms. Wassom.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.